

- The beginning is a bud, the end is a coconut. *-Tanzania (Zanzibar)*
- The beginning is the most important part of the work. *-Nigeria (Igbo)*
- After a reason, a happening; after a beginning, an action. *-Tanzania (Zanzibar)*
- He who never begins, never ends. *-Africa*

# Proverbs for the New Year

- It is the first step that is difficult. *-Nigeria*
- It is coming, it is coming" makes you afraid, but when it actually comes it is no longer dreadful. *-Ghana (Twi)*
- A tree cannot stand without roots. *-Democratic Republic of the Congo (Mayombe)*
- Aiming is not hitting the target. *-Kiswahili*
- As long as fire stays in one's breast, it doesn't cool down. *-Ethiopia*
- No matter how long the night, the day is sure to come. *-Tunisia*
- No matter how much the world changes, cats will never lay eggs. *-Mali (Bambara)*
- Splinters of wood are the ones that start a fire. *-Kenya (Gikuyu)*
- Talkin' `bout fire doesn't boil the pot. *-Black communities (U.S.)*
- Unless you harvest in the light you can't consume in the dark. *-Ethiopia*
- When the music changes, so does the dance. *-West Africa*
- Who have raw meat must look fire. *-Jamaica*
- With proper habits everything is possible. *-Haiti*
- You can measure the depth of the sea but what about a man's heart? *-Malawi*
- Only the knife knows the heart of a pineapple. *-Haiti*

Prepared by the authors of *Lifelines: The Black Book of Proverbs* (available- online and in stores- wherever books are sold). For more proverbs, or to receive a free daily proverb, please visit: [LifelinesProverbs.com](http://LifelinesProverbs.com). Download this document from: [lifelinesproverbs.com/wp-content/uploads/2010/12/New-Year-Proverbs.pdf](http://lifelinesproverbs.com/wp-content/uploads/2010/12/New-Year-Proverbs.pdf). You have permission to copy and distribute this document as long as this footer remains visible and intact.